

Amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for ~~treating~~ suppressing bone resorption in an individual subject diagnosed to have a disorder of bone resorption characterized by increased bone turnover, said method comprising administering an antagonist of ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor to the ~~individual-subject~~ in an amount effective to ~~treat said bone resorption disorder~~ suppress said bone turnover.

2-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said antagonist is selected from the group consisting of antibodies binding on ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor, peptides binding on ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor, tetrameric peptides binding on placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, small molecules binding on ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, anti-sense nucleic acids against ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, interference RNA against ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor or VEGFR-1 and ribozymes against ~~placenta~~ placental growth factor ~~or~~ and VEGFR-1.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said disorder of bone resorption is osteoporosis.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said disorder of bone resorption is osteoporosis.

14. (withdrawn) A method to identify an individual with excessive bone resorption or a predisposition to acquire a disorder of excessive bone resorption, which comprises identifying a polymorphism of the PlGF promoter and/or elevated levels of PlGF in a sample of said individual.

15. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said subject is a human.

16. (new) A method for suppressing bone resorption in a bone resorption disorder said method comprising contacting an osteoclast cell with an antagonist of placental growth factor that inhibits bone turnover activity of the osteoclast cell so that bone resorption in the bone resorption disorder is suppressed.

17. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein said antagonist is selected from the group consisting of antibodies binding on placental growth factor, peptides binding on placental growth factor, tetrameric peptides binding on placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, small molecules binding on placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, anti-sense nucleic acids against placental growth factor or VEGFR-1, interference RNA against placental growth factor or VEGFR-1 and ribozymes against placental growth factor and VEGFR-1.

18. (new) The method according to claim 16, wherein said bone resorption disorder is osteoporosis.